प्रस्ताव भी सरकार के विचाराधीन है और

(च) यदि हां तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुख राम) : (क) 30-5-1992 से रायगढ़ जिले के जसपुर नगर को एस०टी०डी सुविधा से जोड़ दिया गया था। भारत में एस०टी०डी सेवा युक्त सभी स्थानों को जसपुर नगर से जोड़ दिया गया है। इसके अतिरिक्त आई०एस०डी० पर उपलब्ध सारे देश भी जसपुर से जोड़ दिए गए हैं।

(ख) एस०टी०डी० चालू किए जाने के समय से 30-6-93 तक एस०टी० डी० चालू किए जाने के समय घने जंगलों से होकर पार करने वाले ओवर-हैड लाइनों में खराबियों के कारण कुल 322 घण्टों की अवधि (अवसरों पर) के लिए एसटीडी सेवाएं अनुपलब्ध रहीं।

(ग) माइक्रोवेव या आप्टिकल फाइबर केबल जैसा एक विश्वासनीय माध्यम ही प्रणाली को कारगर तथा दक्ष बनाने के लिए उपयुक्त और प्रभावी उपाय है।

(घ) और (ङ) अभी जसपुर नगर को जोड़ने वाली माइक्रोवेव प्रणाली की स्थापना का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है। तथापि, विश्वासनीय एसटीडी सर्किटें प्रदान करने के लिए जसपुर नगर को आप्टिकल फाइबर केबल से जोड़ने का प्रस्ताव है।

(च) भोपाल–कलकत्ता को जोड़ने के लिए जिस आप्टिकल फाइबर केबल प्रणाली की योजना बनाई गई है, वह जसपुर नगर से होकर गुजरेगी। इस प्रणाली के 8वीं योजना के अंत तक चालू हो जाने की संभावना है।

Electronic Exchanges in Madurai, Tamil Nadu

1883. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to set up an electronic exchange with latest technology in Madurai City of Tamil Nadu;

(b) what steps have been taken to upgrade the existing strowger instrument at the East Masi Street Telephone exchange in Madurai city which is the oldest in India;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Adequate electronic equipment has been already allotted for replacement/upgradation of the Madurai Main Strowger exchange at East Masi Street.

(c) (i) So far, 45,000 lines of electronic equipment have already been allotted for Madurai City upto the end of 8th Plan period.

(ii) During July, 93, a 5000 lines E-10B electronic exchange has been commissioned at Ellisnagar. This will help in partly decommissioning of old Strowger equipment at East Masi Street.

(iii) 1200 lines of Level-II Strowger exchange are proposed to be replaced by December, 93.

(iv) Balance lines will be progressively replaced on commissioning of further electronic exchange in the area.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Acquiring of Sites for Telecom Building in Andhra Pradesh

1884. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Telecom has acquired sites for building for STD

facilities in various districts of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) what is the status of the STD building in Polavanam, West Godavari District in the Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) what are the special emphasis to expedite the early facilitation of operation of STD facility in the places of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) It is planned to provide STD facility in all Taluk Head-Quarters in the first phase. Sites have already been acquired at 24 such places and efforts are in progress to acquire sites in remaining 52 places.

(b) Negotiations are in progress for early acquisition of site at Polavanam with Revenue Authorities for construction of Tower and for housing equipment to provide S.T.D. facility.

(c) It is planned to provide STD facility in all the remaining exchanges progressively during VIIIth Plan period for which special drive is on to procure land at required places.

Austerity Measures to Curtail Administrative Expenditure

1885. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of austerity measures taken up by Government to curtail administrative expenditure;

(b) what has been the results of these austerity measures in terms of reduction of expenditure; and

(c) whether Government are satisfied with the implementation of these austerity measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (c) Keeping the government expenditure under control is a continuous exercise. Instructions are issued from time to time regarding specific measures to be taken to effect economy in expenditure or to avoid wasteful expenditure. The measures taken by the Government in this regard include reduction in posts at various levels, ban on air travel by first class, ban on accommodation in hotel suites while on tour, an overall cut on travel, reduction in consumption/expenditure on petrol/diesel; restriction of expenditure on OTA, surrender of 10% telephone lines, restrictions on conferences/seminars/workshops, entertainment (including lunches/dinners), purchase of vehicles, decorative lighting and curtailment in expenditure on consumption of electricity. The Ministry-wise details are not maintained centrally. It is, therefore, difficult to quantify the financial impact of these measures.

Arrears of Corporate Tax and Income Tax

1886. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the cumulative arrears for Corporate Tax and Income Tax at the end of March, 1992;

(b) how it compares with the position that of March, 1980 and March, 1985;

(c) whether any action plan was drawn to reduce the arrears; and

(d) if so, what is the target fixed under the plan and achievement made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) The following was the position of outstanding demand of Income-tax (including corporation tax):

(*Rs. in crores*)

31st March 1992	31st March 1985	31st March 1980
4219	1493	1012

The demands as on 31-3-92 and 31-3-85 were the realisable demands whereas the demand as on 31-3-80 was the total outstanding demand.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir, The reduction of outstanding demand is one of the key areas of the Action Plan of the Department. The achievement in reduction/collection of arrear demand is 7% (provisional) upto